Niagara Falls, N.Y., May 10—Only a month after his stunning victory in the National 50 Km, Carl Schueler came back to win the Olympic Trial 50 and become the first U.S. walker to crack the 4 hour mark for the event. Overhauling Marco Evoniuk on the final 2½ km lap, the 24-year-old Schueler finished in 3:59:33. Marco finished in 4:00:30, also better than Larry Young's previous U.S. best of 4:00:46. Larry did that while finishing third in the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich. Past times didn't stop there either. Dan O'Connor and Jim Heiring were well under their personal bests with 4:11:03 and 4:12:37 in 3rd and 4th. Dan overtook Jim just past 40 km to assure the third berth on the Olympic team—a team that won't compete in the Olympics. Heiring should still have a good shot in the 20 km trials.

The race was held on an ideal day with the temperature at 50 F for the start and climbing to just 62 by the finish. There were 18 starters and the early leader was Ray Sharp, back from a couple of months serious training in Mexico. Ray passed 5 km in 23:50, leading Heiring and Evoniuk by 44 seconds with Schueler another 2 seconds back. Dan O'Connor and Neal Pyke went through in 29:30 with Vincent O'Sullivan and Dennis Beilley just under 25 minutes. The rest of the field was already stringing out.

The leaders held the same spots at 10 Km, with Sharp going through in 46:15, now 43 seconds ahead of Marco and Jim. Schueler was looking strong and led O'Connor by just 5 seconds in 47:57. Pyke was now another half-minute back and had nearly a minute on O'Sullivan, who was pacing himself well.

Evoniuk started to leave Heiring at this point and by 20 Km had caught Sharp. Covering his second 10 km in 46:53, Marco was 1:04:27. Sharp was 40 seconds back but went just one more lap before dropping out with a sore hamstring. Schueler put on a spurt of his own, covering the second 10 in 47:25 to pass 20 in 1:35:22, one second ahead of Heiring and 22 ahead of O'Connor. Pyke was now nearly 4 minutes back of the leader in 6th and had about 40 seconds on O'Sullivan. Randy Mism had moved ahead of Beilley to lead the rest of the field some 7 minutes back of Evoniuk.

Evoniuk continued to accelerate and to pull away. A 22:36 for the next five moved him past the halfway mark in 1:57:03 and when he hit 30 km in 2:01:13, he had 2 minutes on Schueler. Heiring was another minute back, but was opening a slight lead on O'Connor. It was strictly a four-man race at this point, with Pyke and O'Sullivan 4½ minutes behind Dan. Randy Mism was still walking strongly and was now in seventh with Sharp out.

Marco had his biggest lead at 35 Km as he continued to hold his pace with a 23:25 for that 5. Schueler now trailed by 2:20, but was 3 minutes clear of Heiring and had a seeming lock on second place. O'Connor was
starting to close the gap on Heiring—a gap that had grown to nearly a minute a lap earlier. At 40, Eronjuk still seemed in control, although slowing somewhat (24:08). His 50:00c still led Schueler by 2:07. Heiring was now 6 minutes back and struggling, with O'Connor right on his heels.

O'Sullivan was on an isolated fifth and Tom Dooley had moved through the field to sixth, some 25 minutes ahead of Wayne Guverite. Pyke and Kimm were both out, suffering with chronic injuries.

Schueler, dropping his pace only slightly, continued to close ground on Eronjuk, who was now struggling. When Marco needed 25:53 to cover his 9th 5 km, Eronjuk cut the lead to 37 seconds. This was down to 29 seconds as they started the final lap and when Carl moved ahead with a half lap to go, Marco was unable to respond. Needless to say, both were well pleased with their performances at the end. Heiring came back slightly on O'Connor on the final lap, but had given too much ground on the previous lap. O’Sullivan finished a rather isolated fifth, but had nothing to be ashamed of with his total time of 4:17:37, although he was the only one in the first seven to miss his personal record.

Wayne Guverite walked faster than anyone except Schueler over the final 5 km to overtake and walk away from Tom Dooley in his best race to date. Dooley, the real veteran among the top finishers and the only Olympian, settled for a personal best. Actually, Tom was the only former Olympic competitor in the race, which must indicate we have had somewhat of a turnover in the past few years.

**Jobin First North American Under 4:00**

A week before the above race, Marcel Jobin became the first North American under 4:00. He covered the first mile in 8:12 and was already 20 seconds ahead. He started with 4:50 at 10 km and 1:29:15 at 20. He passed 40 in 3:01:02, before fading slightly the last 10. Also turning in stellar performances were Francois Lapointe in 4:19:21 and Glenn Swany in 4:19:21 in 3rd.

**Marcel Also Tops U.S. 10 KM Field**

Chicago, May 24—Canada's Marcel Jobin broke away from the field after two laps around the track at the University of Chicago's Stagg Field and went on to an easy win in a Canadian record 41:47.3 in the National Athletics Congress 10 km championship. Behind Jobin, Chris Hansen and Ray Sharp tied for the U.S. title in 42:42.9 and Dan O'Connor edged Steve Peoplesky for third. Al Halbur led early and then dropped into an isolated fifth where he finished in a highly respectable 46:18. Martin Kraft outdistanced ever-improving Chris Knotts for the next spot. With Jay Star recording 48:01 in 10th, this was probably the classic race in the history of this Chicago classic. The masters title went to our own publisher emeritus, Jack Blackmun, in a scintillating 51:26. The team title was won by the New York AC in 2:19:10 (O'Connor, Mike Morris, and Pete Timmons).


**H.S. Track Meet Previous Day**


**Ohio Race Walker (USCF 205-050)**

The Ohio Race Walker is published monthly in Columbus, Ohio. Subscription rates are $7.00 per year ($5.00 for First Class Mail, 60¢ for Foreign Air Mail). Editor and Publisher: John E. (Jack) Kortland. Address all correspondence regarding both editorial and subscription matters to: Ohio Race Walker, 310 Summit St., Columbus, Ohio 43202. Second Class Postage paid at Columbus, Ohio.
Jones had collared Kash by 10 km and went on to a well-earned second place. Lori Maynard also overhauled Paula just past 15 km to take third place, as both finished well under 2 hours. There were 21 starters in the race with 18 finishing.

In the open race, Walker followed Ed Bouldin's 7111 first mile and then took over. Penn was never far back but gradually lost ground throughout the race. Bouldin walked all by himself in third place after the first couple of miles.


RACES 15 K FOR MENS:


OTHER RESULTS:


O'Connor Wins Men's 20 Km

Seattle, April 20 (Completion of last month's sketchy report—From Martin Rudow) — Only Dan O'Connor and Neal Frye of the big guns showed up for this race on a 2000-meter loop on dead-level asphalt, but there were very, very good performances nonetheless. Neal flew in late, after walking a 44:10 km in Houston the day before. Dan, of course, had walked a good 50 km the week before. So we weren't looking for fast times.

Several guys, though, were looking for fast times for them—fast enough to qualify for the Olympic Trials. Guys like Ed Bouldin and Al Halbur. We were really excited by the resurgence of Terry Lingboom, former Junior Olympic champ from our area who had been hit hard by injuries for nearly 2 years.

At the start, O'Connor and Frye immediately went into the lead. Dan has overhauled his form somewhat, and at last has a "roll," his whole body getting into the stride, something few American walkers have been able to develop. He was looking exceptionally good, and soon pulled about 100 meters up on Neal, who also looked good.

Dan's first 5000 was very fast, but he looked the best of the field, displaying extraordinary double contact. Neal had attempted to catch Dan at about 6000 meters, drew a warning and shortly thereafter dropped out. His previous day's race, a long plane ride, and O'Connor's fast pace was too much. Dan just continued to cruise and his final time was an American best ever, probably not destined to last long.

Behind him, some excellent racing went on. John VanDenBrandt was a solid second most of the way, but Halbur and Bouldin really went at it most of the race. However, most of the excitement behind Dan's great time was generated by Terry Lingboom. As usual, he paced himself well, working up to third only on the last lap. He drew a caution, as did Bouldin and Bruce Harland, and was "much" of the way. But he has an excellent basic technique and looks capable of going under 1:30 this year.

Another hot prospect is a guy who got disqualified, San Schick. He is a 6:30 miler from the NAIA program at a college in Oregon. He actually finished the distance in 1:35:15, but was off over the last 200 meters pushing to get under the 1:34 qualifying time. Results:


Women's 5 Km: 1. Gwen Clark 31:01 2. Ann Westagen 31:40

Open 5 Km: 1. Marty Stetzel 26:17 2. Richal Smith 28:58

Under 15 Km: 1. Alan James 26:19 2. Tony English 27:16

Drake Relays 10 Km, Des Moines, Iowa, April 22-23. Chris Hansen, UCTC 44:11.9
2. Steve Hager, Concordia Coll. 46:10.6 3. Jerry Young, St. Louis 47:02.8 4. Randy Mimm 47:35 5. Steve Ball, UW-Parkside 47:47.5 (stopped a lap short of world record.)
1 Hour, Columbus, Ohio, April 5-6. Jerry Young 7 mi 1096 yds (something wrong here, split show him 56:131 at 11,200 meters-634 miles-which leaves him only 3129 to do almost 580 miles. Also he led Randy Mimm by just 32 seconds at that length, which is 110 yards, but finished better than 300 yards ahead)
MAY 1980

One of the teammates on my club was John Abbate, who had many duels with Mihalo. He said that Mihalo was an excellent walker, but he would resort to running if a challenger was running. (Ed. According to my reports from old times, Johnny himself, bless his soul, was not beyond a little dog trot when he knew he was well-shielded from the judges.) He mentioned a publicity stunt in which Bill walked for 24 hours around a used car lot to celebrate the opening of the dealership. I recall seeing Mihalo on a TV show called "You Asked For It." One stunt he performed on the show was to walk from first base to home plate faster than a minor league catcher could run around the bases (home plate to home plate), and it looked impossible until they showed it in slow motion. But even then, it was obvious he was on the ground. I believe his pro record may be tainted, but his AAU championships must surely be legitimate. I noticed that in 1951, Henry Laskau beat Mihalo in the AAU 20 km in Atlantic City 1:48:43 to 1:42:00. Perhaps Henry could shed some light on Mihalo's style, etc. Ray adds: "In your article—Judging Seminar by Marlow and Wells the USSR delegate was against video coverage as too expensive. Bull! I have a video recorder and plan to buy a camera to make this happen. If I could make this happen, I would be in the business of the day. We have equipment and need to use it."
Eschborn Flying Circus

The president of the IAAF Walking Commission stated we have been watching a revolution rather than an evolution inside the sport and if we want to measure in results we have seen an improvement in records which is incredible. Well it must be transparently obvious to all why it is incredible and the president in his role of chief judge at so many events must take responsibility for bringing the sport to the dangerous crossroads at which it now finds itself by failing to ensure that many elite walkers do not get away with murder—which culminated in the aptly named 'Flying Circus' at Eschborn last year.

Despite what is happening to the sport there are those, particularly those with vested interests (i.e. competitors benefiting from the 'explosion', team managers, and coaches), who are either turning a blind eye or stating that walkers are now so super-fit and strong that they cannot be expected to do so fast and maintain contact and the day of the 'lift off' has arrived.

I can well believe and, in fact, I have always tried to understand that the same was said in the late 1970s when Verne and Webber had their duels and a little later when Capp and Sturgess took liberties during their frantic battles urged on by their respective gangs of supporters. It is well to remember that the 2 and 7 miles times of George Larner (13:11.4 in 1904 and 20:45.8 in 1905) and Bill Sturgess (13:24.2 and 51:27 in 1905) were not beaten until Vickers/Williams and Hardy/Allen respectively over half a century later. The reason for those long-standing records? Well, I leave you to imagine how Larner and Sturgess achieved such outstanding times. The Judges of those times acted accordingly and made certain those eager to better those performances by similar methods were dissuaded. Many will not realize that, some 35 years ago, Vlado Garsan and Werner Hardon took minutes for 10,000 m in their duels and the Swede also set other unlikely records at various distances. However, both were pulled out in the 1946 European Championships while Hardon suffered a similar fate at the London Olympics.

I am utterly convinced that in order not to have the sport ridiculed, withdrawn from major international Games, and lose all credibility with other athletes and the general public, those maintaining contact will have to do so accordingly until we reach within the stated definition. As things stand at present a competitor is more likely to be disqualified if his legs are seen to be not parallel and yet to be asking perfect contact, while the competitor who is straight legged but a considerable distance off the ground at both heel and toe at full stride goes through uncathed.

If, by making sure that blatant and continuous loss of contact is punished, the 'lift' of legal walking is 40-plus minutes for 10 km and 82-plus minutes for 20 km, so be it. There are maximums in other sports, such as snooker and darts, but there is certainly no decline in their popularity because of this.

As a life-long student, follower, and exponent of the sport, I emphasize again that walking has to be seen as walking—and that means uninterrupted contact with terra firma.

Editor: Amen. Some will say this is all well and good but judging is impossible at present speeds. The fact is that at any competitive speed the human eye is not quick enough. Judging has always been a subjective thing. The judge has to look for signs that the walkers are off the ground. The photographic evidence seems to abound that in the vast majority of top level performances over the past couple of years the competitors just aren't on the ground—they aren't walking. If on this basis, judges start to get extremely tough and in the course of doing so doing disqualification people who then come back with photographic evidence that they were indeed on the ground at that stage of the race—so what! No one is being disqualified after the fact on the obvious evidence. Judges will err in both directions.


LOOKING BACK

10 Years Ago (From the May 1979 OMW)–Dave Romensky won the National 15 K in 1:29:09, the 10 K with 42:59, with Enrique Vera just 14 seconds back. Gregory Hirt, a West German, walked a 1:29:02 for 20 in London. The National 30 K went to Bill McCoy, 2:41:04 with Clarence Rambert nearly 3 minutes back. Another fast 20 K was Gennady Agapov’s 1:29:10 in the USSR.

5 Years Ago (From the May 1975 OMW)–John Knifton won the National 15 K in Chicago in 1:10:54, with Tony Dooley 42 seconds back. Bob Anderson, bonny backer Larry Young, Augie Ritz, and Al Shirk completed the top six. Mike Young from the Colorado TC won the Junior 15 in 1:25:50. The Mexican revolution was just beginning and was well demonstrated in a win over Canada. Daniel Bautista won the 20 K in 1:23;50, with Enrique Vera just 14 seconds back and the 20 went to Raul Gonzalez in 1:27:50, with Pedro Aroche and Domingo Collin well ahead of Marcel Jobin.